

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 DECEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Security Situation — Five explosions took place in the commercial area of West Beirut, killing one and wounding three others, Beirut radio reported. Otherwise the situation in and around the capital was relatively calm and the Security Arrangements Committee met to discuss the consolidation of the cease-fire, the radio noted. Further south, an IDF soldier was killed and two others were wounded when their patrol was ambushed near Jazzin, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio. IDF Chief of Staff General Moshe Levi said in remarks reported by the radio that Israel has no proof that the 4,000 "terrorists" released from Ansar camp have been involved in the recent spate of attacks on the IDF in Lebanon. Nevertheless, he claimed that some of the "terrorists" who left Tripoli with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat have already returned to the Al-Biqa' valley.

Political Developments — Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt discussed the Saudi-sponsored security plan with two envoys of President Amin al-Jumayyil in Amman, Radio Monte Carlo reported on 29 December. Earlier, in a report on the last Lebanese Cabinet session of 1983, Beirut radio noted that Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said the director general of public security has ordered the suspension of the leftist newspaper *AS-SAFIR*.

Golan Overflights

Israeli warplanes overflew the Golan Heights on 29 December and were "countered" by Syrian aircraft, Beirut radio reported.

PLO Affairs

At the end of four working sessions of the PLO Military Council in San'a, Yasir 'Arafat signed a plan submitted by four senior officers in the council and ordered its immediate implementation, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Earlier, 'Arafat presented a comprehensive report on the recent battles in northern Lebanon, the radio said. Commenting in an interview with KUNA, the PLO representative in San'a said the Military Council adopted a number of secret resolutions to confront Israel "everywhere." Palestinian sources in the YAR capital cited by Kuwait radio indicated that there was no quorum at the meeting, saying the Military Council "failed" to meet and that instead 'Arafat held talks with those members of the council who support him and with a number of Fatah officials.

In another development, a radio identifying itself as the "Voice of the Palestinian Revolution, voice of the PLO" was heard broadcasting experimental transmissions on 1412 Khz from Nahr al-Barid camp in northern Lebanon. An announcement by the radio called for the liberation of "all Palestine, from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean."

Egypt

Mubarak Interview — President Husni Mubarak, in an interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* carried by MENA, said he may meet with King Husayn "at any time," adding that he is prepared to visit Jordan if necessary. Commenting on his recent talks with 'Arafat, Mubarak said the PLO leader promised to reorganize the internal structure of the Palestinian "home," to "discuss or terminate the question of the dissidents," to hold contacts to define the "landmarks of the future phase," and to contact King Husayn prior to holding "other contacts with all the other parties." A Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue should lead to an Arab political initiative based on the "good points" in President Reagan's plan, Mubarak added. He said PLO leaders were wrong to criticize 'Arafat's visit to Cairo after the latter "had already told them about this visit" and "they agreed" to it. Egypt obtained Israeli guarantees to ensure the safe evacuation of 'Arafat and his supporters from Tripoli, the president disclosed.

Relations with Israel, Jordan — Deputy Foreign Minister Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid was received by Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche on 29 December, ITIM reported. He told ITIM that he came to discuss issues of common interest in order to strengthen and accelerate the peace process and said he hopes to meet with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Jerusalem radio said the visit would not have occurred if the United States had not exerted "heavy pressure" on the Egyptians.

Israel

Commenting on the Cabinet economic debate scheduled for 30 December, Jerusalem radio said the survival of the government in its present form is "in doubt" because of differences over economic policy. Reports that the finance minister is proposing to freeze settlement activity in Judaea and Samaria caused "consternation" in government circles, *THE JERUSALEM POST* wrote in a 29 December editorial, and the official denial of this report "did not carry much conviction." Earlier, Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman threatened to withdraw the Tehiya faction from the government rather than allow a freeze on settlement activity, according to Jerusalem radio. The Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza also strongly condemned a freeze although the Peace Now movement welcomed the proposal, the radio noted.

Iran

Boycott of ICO Summit — Iran will not attend the forthcoming ICO summit conference in Morocco because it is "obvious" that a summit hosted by "Shah Hassan" cannot make the necessary decisions for the Islamic community, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati announced in a statement reported by Tehran radio. Criticizing Morocco's policies, Velayati said the ICO conference should be held in a country with a regime that has "at least minimum credibility" in defending Islamic values and interests. He castigated the ICO for its attitude toward the Iran-Iraq war, asserting that the organization has paid no attention to Iraq's bombardment of Iranian cities and residential areas and has "not even bothered" to inspect the war zones.

Protest to Kuwait — The Education Ministry issued a statement condemning the arrest and expulsion of two Iranian teachers in Kuwait, Tehran radio reported. The radio also accused Kuwaiti security officials of arresting a female teacher and taking her to an unknown destination.

Iraq

Iraq will use weapons "never used before" to confront any new Iranian attack, President Saddam Husayn stated in remarks reported by INA.

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DRA, Mongolia Exchange Treaty Documents

*LD281752 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
28 Dec 83*

[Text] The protocols and consulate agreement of the friendship and cooperation treaty between the DRA and People's Republic of Mongolia, concluded in Ulanbaatar during the official and friendly visit of high-ranking party and government delegation of the DRA, led by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, were signed and the documents exchanged this morning in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs, and Puntsagiyn Shagdarsuren, ambassador of the People's Republic of Mongolia in Kabul. During the exchange of protocols and documents speeches were delivered by the minister of foreign affairs and the Mongolian ambassador on the importance of the friendship and cooperation treaty between the two countries in the consolidation and further development of friendly relations and reciprocal cooperation.

Security Forces Arrest 5 Counterrevolutionaries

*LD232331 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
23 Dec 83*

[Text] Five persons from the counterrevolutionaries belonging to the Jami'it [as received] band along with their ringleader, Dad Mohammad, son of Fazl Ahmad, today were arrested with a number of weapons and ammunition in Solyman village, Shakar Darra district, Kabul Province, by the vigilant security forces of the country.

A Chinese D.Sh.K. [heavy machine gun], 1 Chinese rocket launcher with 6 rounds, 9 303 rifles, 1 100-round British machinegun, 10 U.S. and Italian antitank mines, 7 mortar shells, more than 6,000 rounds of assorted ammunition, 4 kg of explosive substances, a number of antitank and antipersonnel hand grenades, and a large number of papers and documents which prove their links with counterrevolutionary bands abroad were seized by the security forces of the country from these criminals.

A spokesman for the security forces told the BIA correspondent that the weapons and ammunition were discovered in the house of Mohammad Gol, son of Khan Gol, assistant ringleader of a 40-man group in Solyman village of Shakar Darra district.

Mujahidin Leaders on Invasion Anniversary

LD261302 Riyadh SPA in English 1223 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 26, SPA — Two leading Afghan mujahideen leaders have totally rejected a political solution of the Afghan problem without the presence of the mujahideen as the main party and reaffirmed their resolve to continue fighting against the Soviets until a final victory. In an interview given to SPA on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan tomorrow, the leaders Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani reasserted the mujahideen's pledge not to "lay down arms but continue their jihad against the Soviets till a final victory."

The 38-year old Hekmatyar, a fundamentalist hardliner of (?Pashtun) ethnic group in Afghanistan said mujahideen were better organized and armed in 1983 and that their morale was high. He also confirmed the death of 50,000 Soviets during the last five years since the communist coup in Kabul.

The 50-year old Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani, a Turk of Tajik ethnic stock in Afghanistan, told SPA that the Mujahideen successes were greater than in the previous year.

He accused the Soviets of spending large sums of money as bribes to purchase loyalty of the Afghan people and tribes, keeping in view the worsening economic situation and near-starvation conditions in some parts of Afghanistan. Professor Rabbani also accused the Soviets of hiring assassins to kill the mujahideen.

On the other hand, the Peshawar-based AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) said the mujahideen had destroyed nearly 3,000 tanks and trucks as well as destroyed or disabled 200 aircrafts between April 1978 communist coup and end of 1983. Large sections of cities like Kandhar, Herat and Mazar-e Sharif remain in hands of the mujahideen, it added.

FRG Paper Interviews Defecting Colonel

DW231446 Bonn DIE WELT in German 23 Dec 83 p 5

[Walter H. Rueb report on interview with defected Afghan Colonel Mohammad Rahim — date and place not given]

[Text] Just about 2 weeks ago news agencies reported the defection of an Afghan general to Pakistan. The reports further said that he joined the resistance movement there. There were no further details. *DIE WELT* succeeded in locating the prominent defector in Peshwar and interviewing him.

Mohammad Rahim is a plain man, medium sized, modestly dressed, 42 years old, married, and the father of a son. A life full of events has left its traces in the face of the Afghan. When addressed with the title "general," he replies with a single word: "Dagharval."

This means colonel and is a correction of the news agency reports. But it is correct that Mohammad Rahim was the commanding officer of the 7th Afghan Army Division. "I came here because I could no longer agree with the ideology of the rulers in Kabul and their masters in Moscow," he calmly says. He is not at all embarrassed by the hint that the war in Afghanistan has lasted for all of 4 years now. Mohammad Rahim certainly did not change his political creed on the spur of the moment. For years he had hidden his real attitude so as to be able to contribute toward the victory of the mujahidin in the service of Afghan resistance, holding one of the supreme command posts of the Karmal army. He adds by way of explanation: "But now the time has come to put an end to the job I have done so far. The mujahidin have given me permission to leave my post and to come here."

The 7th Army Division is stationed at Mukur, about 120 km south of Ghazni on the circular highway to Afghanistan's number two metropolis, Kandahar. The Soviets are represented in Mukur only by a small detachment of 20 soldiers for the protection of a 30-member group of Soviet military advisers. The Red Army members are equipped with automatic weapons, if need be call in helicopters from Kabul, and have the say on tanks and other armed vehicles of the Afghan Army. The 2,000-man Army division is made up of infantry, artillery, signal, engineering [genie], armored, transport, and logistical units.

The main task of the Army division commanded by Rahim was to safeguard for Soviet and Afghan convoys the approximately 300-km stretch of the strategically important circular highway from Karabokh to Tosirabad in the area of Ghazni.

Nevertheless, the Afghan liberation fighters ventured many raids. In most cases they attacked in groups of 50 or 60 men and inflicted heavy losses on 7th Army Division. "The losses on our side were great because the mujahidin fought with the zeal of Islam and love for the fatherland," Rahim says. "They had a goal, whereas the units subordinated to me fought without morale. What primarily mattered to the Afghan and Soviet soldiers was to cheat each other. They developed little initiative and fought only when it was worthwhile materially.... There was total lack of motivation."

According to Colonel Rahim, a regular soldier in his division is paid about 100 afghanis a month — the equivalent of about DM2.50 at a rate of 1:40. A volunteer for a term of 3 years received 2,000 afghanis; a reserve officer 3,000.

"The Soviets always let the Afghan soldiers do the dirty work," Rahim continues to report. "They thereby intended to arouse the impression among the people that Afghans were killing their compatriots.... The Russians themselves stayed in the background to retain a spotless record. The mujahidin recognized this as a trick devised to make a better impression on the liberation fighters.... Whenever I met with mujahidin, I always heard them say that they most urgently wished the government soldiers would defect to join them, because in that case the Soviets would have to do the dirty work themselves."

As for the relationship between the Soviets and the Karmal soldiers, Rahim reports from his own experience that the Soviets are the real bosses in any and all groups of the Karmal army. They hold the Afghan officers in contempt. "We were abused, ignored, and treated like servants or even slaves."

The decisive orders always came from Soviet advisers. If they weren't available, Afghan generals or other high-ranking officers in Kabul intervened. Rahim was unable to recall the name of the Soviet chief adviser in his Army division. "We called him Vladimir," Rahim says. "We weren't interested in names of Russians, nor did we care."

According to Rahim, his Army division was equipped with old weapons. The Soviets themselves used new and modern weapons exclusively. But not only the quality but also the quantity of the Afghan weapons was poor. "We barely had the weapons and equipment that were absolutely necessary to ensure the safety of the roads and convoys."

The mine detectors were between 10 and 15 years old, without exception. While engaged in their activities, Rahim's soldiers discovered how cunningly and dextrously the mujahidin acted: They mined the roads not only with antitank mines which react only to a pressure of 400 kg but placed underneath these antipersonnel mines which detonate under a pressure of 80 kg.

The question whether there were secret contacts between him and the mujahidin whenever Soviet convoys were announced is answered by the colonel thus: "A small number of officers maintaining contact with the liberation movement was informed in each individual case. There were and there are always contacts between people who love Afghanistan and fight for its freedom.... But in that respect the Russians had very strict regulations. Routes and travel schedules were kept secret. I can guarantee 100 percent and state definitely that the Soviets did not even inform the chief of staff of the Afghan Army about convoys. In most cases we learned about a convoy only shortly before its arrival."

Rahim rates the losses of his Army division in combat with the mujahidin at about 100 men a year, the defections to the liberation fighters at 300 a year. "We were unable to replace the deserters even though forcible recruitment was carried out in Kabul all the time. In this process the men were thrown into airplanes and transported to the places where they were most urgently needed. Many of them escaped while en route between airport and barracks.... The barracks at Mukur is built like a citadel and a prison. No escape possible from there anymore...but anyone given an opportunity to get away goes on the run immediately," Rahim discloses. "Quite often the reinforcements consisted of children and old men. The only goal was to replenish personnel strength. There were not trained soldiers."

Rahim declares the Karmal regime totally unsuccessful in its efforts to replenish the Afghan Army, which has shrunk from 100,000 to 30,000 men, to an acceptable strength again by means of forcible induction. But he himself saw with his own eyes how forcibly inducted people jumped off moving automobiles and, in doing so, risked serious injuries or even death.... "The political commissars in Karmal's army had strict orders to shoot at deserters," Rahim reveals. "I personally saw cases where fire was opened on deserting recruits who had been forcibly inducted."

According to Rahim, agents of the Afghan intelligence service form a completely independent group within each military detachment. "They are independent from the command or the chief of the garrison," Rahim says. "On the other hand, about 20 percent of the Afghan soldiers and officers collaborate with the resistance movement."

Mrs Gandhi Addresses National Congress Session
BK290949 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
 29 Dec 83

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mrs Gandhi, has called upon opposition parties to cooperate with the government in solving national problems. Delivering the presidential address at the 77th plenary session of the Indian National Congress at Surenagar in Calcutta today, she said the opposition parties have the responsibility to allow duly elected government to function. The government and the opposition must work together in matters like national integration and communal harmony.

Mrs Gandhi said much avoidable damage has been done in recent years by opposition parties giving up the constitutional path in their anger over election results. It is strange that leaders of some so-called national parties are eager to defend the moving spirits of narrow regionalism.

The Congress-I president said that her party has always been tolerant toward the opposition parties. But if narrow loyalties are pushed to the extent of damaging the national fabric, we must take notice and fight the danger.

Mrs Gandhi said some leftist groups claimed until recently that they supported the government's foreign policy while opposing its domestic policies. She pointed out that the Janata experience demonstrated that neither a credible foreign policy nor a credible economic and political policy at home can be pursued by a heterogeneous alliance of parties.

Mrs Gandhi criticized certain political parties for extending support and giving respectability to communal and regional forces. This support is providing cover for extremist activities and the designs of outsiders. She called upon the people to oppose all parochial, sectarian, and communal forces. While democracy provides avenues for self-expression and the redress of injustice, it is obligatory on the part of government to deal firmly with those who resort to extraconstitutional means to achieve their ends.

Mrs Gandhi said the Congress has a long record of reconciling regional and larger interest and the constitution has been designed to strengthen the nation as a whole as well as its individual components and contain [word indistinct] capacity for accommodation.

Outlining the achievements during the last 3 years, Mrs Gandhi said that foodgrain production will touch an all-time high of 143 million tons this year.

Mrs Gandhi reiterated her government's commitment to planned development for achieving self-reliance and for overcoming mass poverty.

Referring to the international situation, Mrs Gandhi said India is exerting itself to lessen East-West relations [as heard] and to bridge the gap between the developed and the developing countries. She called upon superpowers to resume negotiations without delay to limit nuclear weapons. She said India wants peace with its neighbors.

Referring to Pakistan, Mrs Gandhi said the acquisition of sophisticated aircraft and equipment by that country beyond its legitimate need has caused much disquiet among our people. We want the government and the people of Pakistan to give serious consideration to our proposal for peace, friendship, and cooperation.

About Sri Lanka, Mrs Gandhi said that widespread violence in that country and the loss of life and property of Tamil-speaking people there as well as stateless persons have sent a wave of anguish not only in Tamil Nadu but all over India. We offered our good offices in the hope of bringing the groups nearer to each other to come to a settlement.

On the new world economic order, Mrs Gandhi said India has suggested an urgent meeting of all nations to discuss the needs of developing countries.

The Congress-I president reviewed the achievement of the party and said that the Congress is the world's largest democratic party and has always been more than a political party.

Earlier in his welcome address, the chairman of the reception committee, Mr Ashoke Sen, called upon his partymen to work for achieving socialism.

Leaders of five foreign fraternal delegations read out messages of friendship and good will from their parties. The countries were: Algeria, the German Democratic Republic, the Soviet Union, Tanzania, and Yugoslavia.

The plenary session is taking up the political resolution for consideration. It was moved by Mr Ghani Khan Chowdhury.

USSR, GDR Delegations

BK261119 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
 26 Dec 83

[Text] Delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic arrived in New Delhi this morning to attend the All-India Congress Committee-I session in Calcutta. The Soviet delegation is led by Mr (Lebashov), alternate member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and the GDR delegation by Mr (Trapo), head of the Department of International Relations. Leaders of the two delegations said at the airport that their visit will help further strengthen their countries' relations with India. They were received at the airport, among others, by the communications minister, Mr V.N. Gadgil, and the minister of state for commerce, Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha.

Parliamentarians Concerned Over Arms Race

BK290959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
 29 Dec 83

[Text] Several Congress-I and opposition members of Parliament have expressed their concern over the growing escalation in nuclear arms race. In a joint statement in New Delhi they had said that the recent deployment of the Pershing and Cruise missiles in Western Europe is a step against peace and disarmament.

ment. The deployment is not only a direct threat to security to Europe but to other parts of the world. They said the arming of Pakistan with the most sophisticated arms is posing a danger to peace in the subcontinent, particularly to India.

The signatories to the appeal include Dr Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, Mr K. Ramamurthy, Mr S.A. Dorai Sebastian, Mr M.S. Ramachandran — all Congress-I; Mr Samar Mukherjee, Communist Party of India-Marxist; Mr Indrajit Gupta, Mr Ramavatar Shastri — both Communist Party of India; and Mr Satya Pal Malik, Lok Dal.

Tarapur Plant Reprocessing Fuel From Rajasthan
BK241653 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
 24 Dec 83

[Text] The Tarapur power reactor fuel reprocessing plant has started reprocessing the spent fuel from the Rajasthan atomic power station. The reprocessing is being done under the safeguards of International Atomic Energy Agency. This was stated at a meeting of the consultative committee for the departments of atomic energy, space, electronics, environment, ocean development, and science and technology in New Delhi today. The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, presided. The members were informed that the nuclear power program envisages an installed capacity of 10,000 megawatts by the turn of the century.

On India's space program, the members were told that India will be capable of launching 150-kg (?class) satellite into near earth orbit through the augmented satellite launch vehicle around 1985.

The government has also decided to set up two factories for manufacture of digital electronic telephone exchanges each with a 5-lakh line capacity in collaboration with France. Another factory for manufacture of 60,000 lines exchange will also be based on French technology.

Mrs Gandhi endorsed a proposal for converting all waste into gas for domestic use. She said that it was desirable to have more trees but not at the expense of agriculture.

STATESMAN Comments on Trade Talks With U.S.
BK281525 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 19 Dec 83
 p 8

[Editorial: "Indo-U.S. Trade"]

[Text] The recent two-day meeting of the economic and commercial sub-commission of the Indo-U.S. Joint Business Council seems to have been important mainly for the extent of disagreement that it revealed between the American and Indian sides. Not only can this damage the immense potential for increased trade and commercial contacts between the two countries, but the differences are also bound to be contrasted with the conspicuous measure of agreement reached at the trade talks held earlier this month between India and the Soviet Union.

Understandably, the Reagan Administration's refusal to raise its contribution to the IDEA's seventh funds replenishment proved the most contentious issue; India arguing that an increase of IDEA funding to only \$9 billion — which the smaller American contribution will imply — instead of the compromise target of \$12 billion (the original World Bank figure was \$16 billion) will mean a substantial decline in the real value of assistance to this country. Since a solution lay beyond the meeting's competence, the American delegation reportedly merely reiterated the U.S. position that Washington was the largest single donor to the multilateral aid institution. In reply to the second Indian complaint — the USA's negative stand on the call for an international conference on money and finance — the Americans maintained that it was not mandatory for the Administration to accept the resolution in favour of a conference on monetary reform passed by Congress. A third problem over double taxation also remains unsolved, as is evident from the sub-commission's "agreement" with the recommendation of the Joint Business Council that a bilateral treaty on the subject would be an important factor in further expanding trade and investment.

Important as these issues are for the longer-term, the difficulties faced by individual businessmen, both Indian and American, who are interested in increasing exchanges deserve immediate attention. But the New Delhi meeting does not appear to have focussed attention on the problem even though its resolution is bound to give an impetus to increased bilateral trade. The reported American appreciation of New Delhi's new approach to foreign investment, and of the increasing participation of U.S. businessmen in joint ventures, does not suggest much awareness of obstacles on the ground. Efforts by Indian exporters to inform American buyers of the advantages of importing from this country, and recent U.S. measures to lift countervailing duty on certain Indian engineering exports have undoubtedly improved the climate for trade, but the potential is far from being realized. True, India's sales to the USA rose from Rs 207.43 crores in 1970-71 to more than Rs 900 crores at the beginning of this decade, but even the second figure represents a minuscule proportion of total U.S. imports.

PATRIOT on Arkhipov Visit, Economic Ties
BK281455 Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Dec 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Arkhipov's Visit"]

[Text] By all indications, Soviet Deputy Prime Minister I.V. Arkhipov's visit to India for the USSR-India Joint Commission meeting has broadened the scope of economic cooperation between the two countries. Indo-Soviet cooperation is one of the long-lasting and mutually rewarding economic relationships the USSR has had with the developing countries of the Third World. This relationship has contributed enormously to India's capacity for self-reliance in the industrial field. India's light industry products and agricultural commodities have met consumer demands in the COMECON countries. Because this relationship has succeeded so well it is necessary to keep it under constant review so as to broaden its scope. The joint commission, acting

within a defined time-frame and through its technical sub-groups, has indicated the lines along which not only trade but also wider economic cooperation between the two countries can progress in the period up to 1987.

It appears that the team headed by Mr Arkhipov has made certain suggestions for long-term Soviet industrial-technological assistance to the Indian economy. These include the proposals of a new steel mill at Visakhapatnam, capacity expansion at Bhilai and Bokaro, a super thermal plant, modernisation of Ranchi's Heavy Engineering Corporation, mining technology and oil exploration in the Godavari basin and West Bengal. The Soviet side appears to have renewed the offer of an atomic power plant. The Indian side will no doubt consider these suggestions, keeping in view the requirements in the key sectors of the economy. In trade this could mean an annual turnover of Rs. 3,500 crores. The projected turnover presumably will include the value of the promised Soviet supply of 3.5 million tonnes of crude in 1984. A new feature is the innovation which will accord India's private sector a wider scope in the India-USSR economic relationship. India's private entrepreneurs have played a substantial part in expanding Indo-Soviet trade. What is being proposed is not therefore unique. The proposal of an India-Soviet Union chamber of commerce acknowledges the existence of these ties and devises an institution through which the Indian private sector's special problems can be resolved. The suggestion comes at a time when Indian export to the West is being blocked by resurgent protectionism in the OECD countries. If the proposal for wider participation of the private sector in Indo-Soviet trade is accepted, both sides, especially Indian manufacturers who have been hit by the recession in the West, will benefit.

Mr Arkhipov spoke in Delhi of the Soviet desire to see India emerge as "a strong and mighty power". India will applaud this as the sentiments of a friendly world power. However, India has the excruciating problem of liquidating the legacy of colonialism and banishing poverty. That is why the assistance the USSR has given India during a crucial period, when the main Western powers refused to help Indian industrialisation, is so warmly appreciated by this country. As the Indian economy develops its requirements change. The altered context of India-USSR economic relations has to be constantly reviewed to meet the two nations' requirements. A durable relationship is bound to expand into new areas, and Mr Arkhipov's visit has offered clear indications of how the Soviet side envisions the immediate future of this relationship.

Briefs

Iranian Compensation — Iran has agreed to pay a compensation of \$6 million to India for taking over Indian shares in the National Iranian Oil Company. A team of Indian officials led by the secretary in the Petroleum Ministry, Mr A.S. Gill, negotiated the agreement in Tehran recently. Iran has also agreed to increase its equity participation in the oil refinery and fertilizer factory in Madras. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Dec 83 BK]

Trade Accord With Bhutan — India will provide Bhutan a point on the Indo-Nepal border for its trade with Nepal. Two points will be provided on the Indo-Bangladesh border to facilitate Bhutan's trade with Bangladesh. These points came under an agreement on trade and commerce signed in Timpu on 27 December by India's commerce secretary and Bhutan's trade minister. The agreement is valid for 5 years and replaces the agreement of 1972 which lapsed some time ago. [Summary] [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 28 Dec 83 BK]

Charge Says Iran Desires Revival of RCD*GF261046 Karachi DAWN in English 22 Dec 83 p 12*

[Text] Karachi, Dec 21: Iran has through diplomatic channels, communicated to Pakistan its desire to revive the RCD (Regional Cooperation for Development), charge d'affaires of the Iranian Embassy in Pakistan, Mr Ebrahim Rahimpur, told a press conference at the Iranian Consulate-General, Karachi, today.

The RCD, he explained, lay dormant in post-revolution Iran due to the Iranian Government's preoccupations with State affairs. However, believing as Iran always did in the soundness and efficacy of the RCD, the Iranian Government now desired that regional cooperation between Iran, Pakistan and Turkey in the socio-economic and cultural fields, should be strengthened, he said.

A fortnight ago the first RCD meeting was held in Tehran, at which Pakistan and Turkey were represented by their ambassadors and Iran by the deputy minister of economic affairs. Another similar meeting was due in Tehran in a week to consider measures for accelerating the pace of regional cooperation in shipping and cultural affair, he said.

Mr Rahimpur, alluding to cordial relations between Iran and Pakistan spoke of the identity of ideological base. Just as the unity of Ummah was the basis of Iranian revolution, as propounded by Imam Khomeyni and Imam Montazeri, so was Islam the base of Pakistan ideology, he noted.

In the commercial sphere, likewise, Pakistan and Iran were fully cooperating, he said, adding that till March last, goods worth 400 million dollars were exchanged between the two countries — oil from Iran for the Pakistani wheat, rice, sugar and textiles.

In reply to a question, Mr Rahimpur said the Afghan refugees in Iran totalled around one million and they were being looked after by the Iranian Government without seeking aid from any country or agency.

He defended action against Tudeh Party and slated the role of the U.S. and French peace-keeping forces in Lebanon.

MRD Campaign Increases Lawlessness in Sind*GF261214 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 15 Dec 83 p 7*

[By staff correspondent]

[Text] Hyderabad, Dec 14 — Gangs of notorious bandits and educated youngmen armed with modern small firearms are on the rampage, committing robberies and dacoities in several parts of Sind after the miserable failure of the so-called MRD movement.

In the past 48 hours the Latifabad National Bank Branch and two octroi posts have been robbed by six "young and educated gunmen", reportedly former students, who went under ground following the gun battle at the engineering university campus.

Kewora, the brother of notorious bandit Kamal Khuso, who was killed in an encounter last month, has sent threatening letters to nine zamindars and businessmen demanding ransom of Rs. 1 lakh, Rado watches and silk turbans from each otherwise their crops would be burnt and their kith and kin abducted as hostages.

It needs to be mentioned that early this year when zamindar and advocate Kishan Chand failed to meet a similar demand, his crops of wheat and rapeseeds were burnt to ashes.

It also needs to be recalled that during the so-called MRD campaign notorious desperado and wanton killer Nasir Faqir had ordered villagers to hoist flags of the defunct PPP or be prepared to have their villages looted and houses burnt.

It has now become more than evident that anti-Pakistan elements in Sind have donned a new mask. Lawlessness and banditry are more in accordance with their thinking and designs. The failure of their MRD farce has forced them to come out in their true colours.

One Injured in Lahore Student Clash 19 Dec*GF231320 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Dec 83 p 12*

[Text] Lahore, Dec 19: Students belonging to Quaid-i-Azam Students Federation [QSF] and Islami Jamiat Tulaba [IJT] clashed for the second day here today at the time of filing nomination papers at MAO [as published] college.

Firearms were also used during the clash and a third year student, Sahir Dabeer, was injured. He was rushed to Mayo Hospital.

Later, some students reached the Punjab University from where a violent group came out on the Mall, took into possession two buses and set ablaze old tyres on the road. A heavy police contingent rushed to the spot but did not take any action against the unruly students.

It is stated that QSF and IJT members first chanted slogans against each other at MAO college and then the clash took place. The wounded student is stated to be a member of QSF.

NAWA-E WAQH Views Soviet Envoy's Remarks*GF281400 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 21 Dec 83 p 3*

[Editorial: "The Soviet Envoy's Threats and Fabrications!"]

[Excerpts] In an interview with *NAWA-E WAQT*, Soviet Ambassador V.I. Smirnov accused Pakistan of conducting an undeclared war on Afghanistan from its own territory with the aid of the United States and its allies. He threatened that if this state of affairs continues, the Afghan Government and the Soviet Union will take action to end this intervention.

The Soviet ambassador's accusations and threats are not new or unexpected but in fact reflect the very same Soviet policy in accordance with which this superpower invaded Afghanistan in December 1979 and continues to follow until now. Its military ally, India, follows the same policy. However, the tone adopted by the Soviet envoy is not befitting of a diplomat of a country which desires friendship, peace, cooperation, and fraternal ties. Instead, it smacks of the aggressive designs of a superpower which intends to subordinate Pakistan.

The war mentioned by Mr Smirnov from Pakistani soil against Afghanistan (which is under Soviet occupation) is being used as a pretext for joint Soviet-Afghan operations in the area.

The relentless campaign of killing and endless destruction initiated by the Soviet Union has resulted in more than 3 million Afghans being forced to take refuge in Pakistan. This is tantamount to collusion between the Soviet Union and the puppet government of Babrak Karmal and is an act of aggression. By sending such a large number of Afghan refugees into Pakistan, the Soviet Union has imposed a burden on Pakistan, a country of limited resources, and this can be interpreted as an undeclared war on the part of the Soviet Union. Besides, the war being fought against the Soviet occupationist forces is not limited to the border areas near Pakistan, but is being fought all over Afghanistan, in every nook and corner of the country, and even in those areas that are far removed from Pakistan.

As far as the question of the United States and its allies is concerned and the allegation that they are providing equipment and arms to the Afghan mujahidin, this is another fabrication. Though they may wish that there should be resistance against the Soviet Union and that it should incur losses in men and materiel, they are not aiding them. This Western country is also against the renaissance of Islam in Afghanistan just as the Soviet Union is; they are both against Islam and the Muslims. If, according to the Soviet ambassador, the United States is considering ways and means to convey arms and equipment to the Afghan mujahidin, it is because Pakistan refused to become a conduit for the induction of arms to the mujahidin. If the Soviet ambassador had taken even a slightly rational approach to the issue, he would have acknowledged Pakistan's caution and services in this respect.

Despite being a small country, Pakistan will not consider it necessary to acquiesce to Moscow's wishes or consider complying to its command. Without doubt, Pakistan is desirous of friendly relations with the Soviet Union and appreciates its assistance in setting up the steel mill, the Guddu thermal station, the tractor plant, and in exploring for oil and gas, and wishes to expand the areas of cooperation with the Soviet Union.

The danger hidden within the Soviet ambassador's threatening words and fabrications does not need any further explanation. The dens set up for training in subversion in Kabul, and with Mrs Gandhi's cooperation, are no secret. Absconding elements are hatching conspiracies in the friendly country of "Great Britain" and have expressed satisfaction at Mrs Gandhi's overt interference in our country's affairs.

It has become imperative for us to work for internal national harmony. Our insensitivity does not allow us read the writing on the wall that the enemy is threatening us and challenging us. We are behaving as if all is peaceful around us and we are merely engaged in petty bickering. This is not an appropriate attitude and can be interpreted as opening the door to misfortune.

Briefs

Communication Satellite — Pakistan is planning to launch an indigenously built communication satellite. The International Frequencies Registration Board has already reserved space for the proposed communication satellite in the static orbit over the equator. The Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere research Council (SUPARCO) has undertaken detailed feasibility study of the project, including the design of the satellite. The feasibility study will be completed by June next year. After receiving the go-ahead signal from the government, SUPARCO will take 3 years to complete and launch this satellite into space. The satellite will be in the orbit by early 1987. [Excerpt] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Dec 83 BK]

Oil Struck in Badin — Oil has been struck in Laghari-2 oil well in Badin district and its production is estimated at over 2,000 barrels per day. Announcing this at a press conference in Islamabad today, Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Major General Rao Farman Ali said maximum production from this well has been found to be over 5,000 barrels per day. He said Laghari-1 oil well is already yielding 878 barrels per day. [Excerpt] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Dec 83 BK]

Velayati: Iran Will Not Attend Morocco Summit

*LD281839 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
28 Dec 83*

[Text] Regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran's participation, or nonparticipation, in the fourth summit of the Islamic Conference Organization member countries — due to be held in Morocco — 'Ali Akhbar Velayati, Iran's foreign affairs minister, said: Following the imposition of the war by Iraq on the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Iraqi Ba'athist regime, contrary to all known international standards and in spite of all ethical and Islamic criteria, bombed Iran's cities and residential areas. It has already martyred or maddened homeless many Muslim people who were miles away from the front line. These realities have been confirmed by UN delegations and have been recorded in these delegations' reports. The International Red Cross, which dispatched a delegation to inspect civilian areas, has condemned the Iraqi regime's inhumane action, which is contrary to the 1949 Geneva Convention.

It was rightly and appropriately expected that the Islamic Conference Organization would take the initiative in this matter even before the United Nations or the International Red Cross dispatched delegations to inspect the civilian bombed areas. Unfortunately however, in spite of the requests of the Islamic Republic of Iran made at various times and in official memorandums to this organization's secretariat, so far, owing to the influence wielded by the fronts attached to reaction and the circles close to the Iraqi regime, the organization has not paid any attention to this important issue. Considering the fact that one of the important subjects in the agenda of the fourth summit of the Islamic Conference Organization is dealing with the issue of the Iran-Iraq war, how can one expect such a conference, which has not even bothered to inspect the war zones or see for itself the dimensions of these savage actions committed by the Iraqi regime, which are unprecedented in history, to adopt a fair, responsible position on such an important issue? On the other hand, considering his hostile stance against the Islamic Revolution, his repeated support for the defunct shah, and his support for Saddam in the war, how can Shah Hasan host and chair the summit of the Islamic countries?

Referring to the record of the Morocco regime, Mr Velayati said: This regime was a bridge for ~~the~~ Sadat to go to Israel. By bringing Egypt to the Arab summit, it is also trying to recognize and impose on the conference the treacherous and compromising plans of the Zionist regime. By giving military bases to the United States, the greatest supporter of the Zionist regime, it has practically acted against the interests of Muslim nations and in support of Zionism.

The foreign affairs minister also said: By holding the Fes Summit, the Morocco regime established a very bad record in terms of making decisions against the interests of the Islamic ummah. It has also committed numerous acts of aggression and violations against the Muslim people of the Sahara and violated these people's most basic rights. In the 14th conference of the foreign ministers of Islamic countries, which was recently held in Dhaka, it initiated an abortive resolution which had been directly planned against the Islamic Republic of Iran and for Iraq by Iraq itself.

For these reasons and in such a condition, it is obvious that the Morocco summit cannot be useful and cannot make the necessary and appropriate decisions in the interests of the Islamic ummah. In our opinion, the conference should be held in a country whose regime has at least minimum credibility in defending Islamic values and the interests of the Islamic ummah. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran cannot attend the Morocco summit.

Ministry Official Denies Meddling in Malaysia

GF281624 Tehran IRNA in English 1548 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 28, IRNA — General director of the Asia-Oceania Department of the Iranian Foreign ministry, 'Ali Ahani said today that his recent tour of Vietnam and Laos was aimed at establishing diplomatic ties as part of the Islamic Republic's policy for expanding relations with Third World countries.

'Ali Ahani who has just returned from a visit to the two countries outlined the political and cultural characteristics of Vietnam and Laos saying that they had been dominated and colonized by the U.S. and France for decades and felt first-hand the unjustness of imperialism. The common characteristics among Laos, Vietnam and Iran are the firmness of the three countries in standing up against tyranny of the arrogant world powers and belonging to the Third World as well as being members of the non-aligned movement.

'Ali Ahani then categorically denied recent insinuations of the governments of some southeast Asian countries especially Malaysia that the Islamic Republic of Iran intervened in their domestic affairs, adding that such interferences are contrary to the principles of Iranian foreign policy. He said the Islamic Republic would not allow foreign interference in Iran and likewise it would not interfere in others internal affairs.

He said the Islamic republic of Iran established excellent relations with the countries in that region of the world following the culmination of the Islamic revolution and that ties with Malaysia were expanding with diplomatic representation at an ambassadorial level. The Malaysian officials are aware of the existence of common enemies of the two countries who are concocting plots to mar the cordial relations between Malaysia and Iran. He concluded that the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the imperialistic mass media as the culprit for spreading rumours of Iranian interference in internal affairs of Malaysia.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communiqué No 1,587

*LD281751 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
28 Dec 83*

[Communiqué No 1,587 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Sporadic artillery and heavy weapons exchanges between the victorious forces of Islam and the Iraqi Ba'athist aggressive mercenaries continued on the operational fronts of Piranshahr, Sar Dasht, and Marivan during the past 24 hours. Our warriors on every front defended the region under their protection and consolidated their positions. Thanks to our

combatants relentless artillery fire, all enemy movements were halted and the Saddamist forces suffered losses and casualties.

Our combatants fire also repulsed operations of a Saddamist patrol in the Kodu heights region and forced the enemy's infiltrating patrol to flee. A motorized column of Saddamist mercenaries also came under our combatants' fire along the Chuman Mustafa highway and suffered some losses.

The Iraqi forces in the Piranshahr operational sector suffered destruction of one ammunition depot, several infantry trenches, and weapon emplacements along with their crews. Our forces fire on the Marivan front silenced the enemy artillery, killed a number of Saddamist troops, and set ablaze and destroyed several slit trenches and foxholes, an engineering lorry, and a mortar launcher of the aggressors.

The firing between our forces and the enemy also continued on the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam and on the southern fronts. Our victorious warriors, while continuing to consolidate their own defensive positions, opened intense artillery and mortar fire on enemy infantry positions, tanks and artillery emplacements, and supply routes. By dispatching patrols to the enemy's defensive regions, our warriors silenced the Iraqi forces fire and, while setting parts of the Saddamist mercenaries' supply lines ablaze, killed or wounded a number of their troops, and, as far as possible, prevented enemy troop and supply vehicle movements. In the course of exchanges on these fronts, fire was more intense in the Kushk and Faqih regions.

On the Abadan fronts, the Gendarmerie warriors, by silencing the Saddamist forces fire, succeeded in destroying seven slit trenches and observation posts and two engineering vehicles belonging to the Iraqi mercenaries, along with a number of their troops.

The city of Abadan was under long-range artillery fire by Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries yesterday; as a result, several houses and shops were damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Reza'i Speaks at Kerman Province Meeting

GF231950 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Brother Mohsen Reza'i, commander in chief of the Revolution Guards Corps, spoke to a meeting in Rafsanjan in Kerman Province. He lauded the role of the Muslim Iranian people in safeguarding the Islamic Revolution, particularly on the battlefields of the war imposed by the Iraqi regime on the Islamic Revolution. He noted the importance of implementing the Labayk ya Khomeyni plan and welcomed the masses' participation in it. He said that this plan proved to the enemies of the Islamic Revolution that their conspiracies to confront the Islamic Revolution will always fail.

Montazeri Meets Justice Minister, Others

LD281159 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
28 Dec 83

[Excerpt] According to a Central News Unit report, Yusef Sane'i, the country's prosecutor general, and Mohammad Asghari, minister of justice, met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday. During the meeting, a report was given to his great eminence about the internal situation in the Justice Ministry and the difficulties there. Concerning those problems, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: Regarding those convicted or accused who might show signs of returning to the straight path, contrition, and sincerity, and whose stay in prison might not be deemed necessary and essential — as concurred by the blessed views of his holiness the imam, may his lofty shadow never grow less — arrangements should be made for them to receive a pardon, return to the bosom of their families, be able to make up for their past, and serve their country. In conclusion, he made certain recommendations regarding the attention that should be paid by the responsible authorities to the education, health, and welfare of prisoners.

According to the same report, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ebadi, the Imam's representative and Zahedan's Friday imam; a group of Shi'ite and Sunni clergymen and Ulema; and officials responsible for institutions in that region also met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday. While expressing appreciation for those present and referring to the changes that have taken place in Iran and in a great many parts of the world stricken with colonialism as a result of the victory of the Islamic Revolution, he issued certain guidelines on the plots hatched by the superpowers and their sabotage aimed at striking at the Islamic Revolution and on maintaining unity, vigilance, and awareness regarding their divisive provocations.

Further Materials on Dispute With Kuwait

March to Kuwaiti Embassy

LD241237 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
24 Dec 83

[Text] A large group of Iraqi immigrants residing in Tehran, at the invitation of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, took part today in an extensive march to condemn the hostile policies of the Kuwaiti Government against Muslims. The marchers carried pictures of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and of the martyr Ayatollah Sayyid Muhammad Baqir Sadr and placards on which slogans in Arabic, including "Iraqi prisoner must be freed," were written. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim, the spokesman for the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, and militant Iraqi clergymen led the marchers. Chanting the slogans "Neither Reagan, nor Saddam," "Only the Koran's order," "Death to colonialism, death to America, death to France, death to Israel," they marched toward the Kuwaiti Embassy.

In front of the Kuwaiti Embassy a resolution was read by one of the members of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq. The resolution reads in part: The Kuwaiti Government has arrested and imprisoned a number of Iraqi mujahidin and intends to hand them over to Saddam's Zionist regime. At present it is busy arresting more Iraqi mujahidin. We wish to state that these mujahidin are meek and oppressed and have the right to blow up U.S. and French embassies, because they fled Iraq due to the oppression and suppression exercised by the blasphemous Saddam, this U.S. lackey who commits any crime he wishes.

The resolution further reads: They have the right to take their revenge on the United States because it is America which strengthens and supports Saddam and which sends military equipment to him day and night. It is America which drags our brothers and sisters into the dust and blood in Lebanon.

At the conclusion of the resolution it is emphasized: The Kuwaiti Government must allow those who have been arrested to defend themselves. Lawyers from the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iran must be allowed to take part in their trial, which should be held in an open court so that the people of the world will know how they have been interrogated. We also demand that the Kuwaiti Government release of all arrested prisoners. If this request is not met, we will not stand back as witnesses to the oppression imposed on our nation.

Iranian Workers Questioned

LD252136 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Dec 83*

[Text] Following the inhuman behavior of Kuwait police against Iranian Muslims residing in that country, the Central News Unit announced: Last Friday, about 30 members of the Kuwaiti police surrounded the residential district of the Iranian workers in [name indistinct] region and arrested 70 Iranian workers. According to this report, the attack by the Kuwait police follows the mourning ceremonies held for the death of one of the relatives of one of the Iranians in Sh'aban Mosque. This report indicates that those arrested were released after 6 hours of repeated questioning and interrogation.

120 Iraqis Arrested

GF261515 *Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Dec 83*

[Text] The Kuwaiti authorities have arrested 120 sons of the Islamic Iraqi community in Kuwait who had taken refuge in Kuwait to escape the hell and terror of Iraq and handed them over to the ruling authorities in Iraq. The news report affirms that among those arrested is the son of Ayatollah 'Abd as-Sahib al-Hakim, who was recently executed by Iraqi henchmen.

The Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries earlier distributed a statement saying that the arrests by the Kuwaiti authorities and their handing them over to the ruling regime in Iraq means their certain execution.

Education Ministry Warning

LD281847 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Dec 83*

[Text] The International Relations office of the Education Ministry has issued a statement in connection with the arrest and expulsion of two teachers of the Iranian schools in Kuwait. The statement, while condemning the barbaric attack by so-called security officials of the Kuwaiti Government on the supervisor of the schools of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the arrest of the supervisor together with several of the Iranian staff and teachers, says: We hereby strongly warn the perpetrators of such dishonest and immoral deeds, which are contrary to international law and norms, not to display any further baseness and abjectness. Instead of fearing and obeying the United States, the regime occupying Jerusalem, and the criminal Saddam, they should fear the wrath of Almighty God and the revenge of the Muslim, martyr-nurturing, and innocent nation of Iran. We hereby warn them not to strain themselves or become any further involved in the crimes of the United States, Israel, and Saddam and not become their plaything any more than they are now, lest they be dealt a sharp slap.

Female Teacher Arrested

LD282302 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Dec 83*

[Text] Following their attack on the supervisory building of the Iranian schools and the arrest of the supervisor and several of the Iranian staff and teachers, security officers in Kuwait, attacking a school bus carrying Iranian pupils, arrested a female teacher and took her and her baby to an unknown destination. By so doing, they once again showed the world their enmity against revolutionary Muslims and dear Islam.

NVOI Condemns Crimes of Islamic Republic Rulers

TA282052 *(Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 28 Dec 83*

[Unattributed commentary: "What Is Food to One, Is to Others Bitter Poison"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The Islamic regime's mass media report that allegedly the Government of Kuwait has consented to the Iraqi Government's demand to repatriate a number of that government's opponents. If true, this measure by Kuwait's Government cannot be approved by our homeland's people and world progressive circles. However, what is most amazing and surprising in connection with this report is the protest by officials and government figures of the Islamic Republic against this measure, which in fact is nothing more than: What is food to one, is to others bitter poison.

Leaders and government figures of the Islamic Republic have sounded their propaganda trumpets and have termed the Kuwaiti Government's measure an ugly, antihuman, and anti-Islamic deed and a violation of international principles and human rights. Even addressing such international organizations as the Organization for Defense of Human Rights, they ask: Why do you keep silent in the face of such a deed?

In connection with this issue, leaders of the Islamic regime have also indulged in disseminating certain reports about the crude and inhuman treatment by Saddam's regime toward its opponents in Iraq's prisons, shedding crocodile tears for the oppressed of that country.

To hear this kind of talk from the mouths of leaders and government figures of the Islamic Republic is amazing indeed, for the people have still not forgotten the facts pertaining to the pressure exerted by the despotic rulers of the Islamic regime on Iran's neighboring countries such as Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, and so forth, to repatriate the Tudehis and other individuals affiliated with dissenting revolutionary forces.

At first, rulers of the Islamic regime exerted pressure on the Turkish Government. Later they issued an ultimatum, then they employed the machine of bribery, until finally they succeeded in repatriating a number of Iranians who had fled to Turkey. As became clear later, most of these Iranians were neither Tudeh members, nor feda'i, nor mojahed.

The Islamic regime's oppressive rulers inflicted such a calamity on these fugitive Iranians that even a pen is ashamed to document. A number of these innocent individuals were killed in a tragic manner under medieval torture. World democratic organizations, including the International Organization for Defense of Human Rights, in those days strongly protested these deeds by the Islamic regime of Iran and the Turkish Government, but rulers of the Islamic Republic not only failed to pay the slightest heed to these legal protests, they also indulged in assaulting and attacking these organizations with utmost impudence. They again repeated Ayatollah Khomeyni's statement that Iran does not recognize these organizations and does not attach the slightest value to their protests.

As regards the remarks by the gentlemen and their mass media about crimes perpetrated in Iraq's prisons, it should be stated that when these gentlemen talk about crime, murder, and the need to observe human and Islamic ethics, it seems that they forget that they themselves have turned Iran into a slaughterhouse for all strugglers on the path of Iran's independence, freedom, and social justice.

Right now the medieval prisons of the regime ruling our tyranny-stricken homeland are full of Iran's noble and patriotic sons. Invoking the religious decree of the country's top leader, executioners and torturers of the Islamic Republic of Iran break these innocent and noble sons of Iran in the regime's medieval dungeons, in the true sense of the word, then they eliminate them. The crimes currently being perpetrated in the dungeons of the Islamic regime of Iran are unprecedented, surpassing even those of the age of barbarism.

History will never forget these frightful crimes by the rulers of the Islamic Republic. The crocodile tears of these gentlemen cannot deceive anyone. Our homeland's people rightly are calling the Islamic Republic's oppressive rulers insidious and traitors to the revolution and nation.

Clandestine Reports Guards Clash in Esfahan

GF281544 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Text] In a clash between two factions of the revolution guards that took place recently in (Talavarjan) in Esfahan, 100 revolution guards were killed on both sides. According to our news sources, a few days back two revolution guard groups which had experienced a series of differences clashed with each other and took positions in the streets of (Talavarjan) and opened fire on each other. They used grenades and light and heavy automatic weapons. During this armed clash, lasting several hours, the shops in the city closed and the people took refuge in their houses.

The armed clash soon deteriorated into a free-for-all when a group of revolution guards, followers of Seyyed Jalal Taheri, the Friday imam of Esfahan, employed a tank to annihilate the followers of a local Friday imam and shelled their strong points set up in the street. During this free-for-all the revolution guards, followers of Seyyed Jala Teheri, who represents of Khomeyni in Esfahan Province, succeeded in killing more than 60 members of the opposite side and wounding several others. The same report says that during the shelling by the tank and the indiscriminate firing, several local inhabitants and a number of children returning from school were killed or wounded.

The nationalist sources report that during this power fight some 100 revolution guards were killed on both sides. Scores were wounded.

The fighting started when the revolution guards who are followers of Seyyed Jalal Taheri were leaving Esfahan. They began to jeer and abuse the local Friday imam and threatened to take him to Esfahan [as heard] with his hands tied.

We will keep our listeners posted regarding further details about this incident in our future programs.

Clandestine Reports on Afghan Demonstrations

GF281810 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Text] The Khomeyni regime has prevented an anti-Soviet demonstration by Afghan refugees in Khorasan. According to a report by the Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Mashhad, a group of Afghan nationals in Khorasan wanted to hold a protest demonstration on the anniversary of the Red Army's invasion of the land of our neighbouring Muslim country, Afghanistan, but the regime's agents did not allow them to do so.

According to another report by our correspondent, in Tehran too, although thousands of Afghans wanted to participate in a demonstration, the guards attacked the demonstrators' lines and dispersed them. Only a small party of about 1,000 Afghan residents of Tehran was able to make its way to the Soviet Embassy in Tehran and hold a small-scale demonstration.

There are more than 1 and 1/2 million Afghan refugees in Iran and, except for a limited number who are working for the Khomeyni regime either in the Qom theological school or in the guards corps taking part in activities against the Iranian nation, the rest are patriotic people fighting against the invasion of their homeland. The Khomeyni regime, although outwardly condemning the Soviet presence in Afghanistan yesterday, the evening before corroborated the Soviet accusation that they support the Western imperialists.

The Free Voice of Iran, while sympathizing with the brotherly and neighborly Muslim nation of Afghanistan, condemns the Khomeyni regime for its fascist actions against the patriotic Afghans and for its allegiance to the world imperialists. The Free Voice of Iran, along with patriotic personnel of the secret transmitter of the Free Afghan radio, declares that in the end the invaders will suffer defeat at the hands of resisting forces of the patriotic people of Afghanistan. The Free Voice of Iran calls on the noble patriotic people to unite and become one so that they can at the opportune moment topple the antinational and treacherous, so-called Islamic regime and take the fate of Iran into their own hands.

Radio Iran: Regime Supports Ad-Da'wah Party

GF250511 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The Islamic Ad-Da'wah Party, which has a base and a supreme assembly in Tehran, has received millions of dollars from Iran and regularly expropriates the property of the Iranian nation and housing units. The mullah Meshkini, Qom Friday imam and the spearhead of the Tudehite religionists in the Islamic Republic, has asked the government to increase the money and credit allocation to this terrorist network. Mullah Meshkini, who was speaking on the terrorist activities of the Islamic Ad-Da'wah Party in Turkey and Kuwait, asked for an increase in the budget of this alien organization. Addressing the government authorities, he said that more attention must be paid to the Ad-Da'wah Party.

While Ruhollah Khomeyni and Hashemi-Rafsanjani have denied any Iranian involvement in subversive activities in Turkey and Kuwait, yesterday some Friday imams — including Mullah Meshkini, the Qom Friday imam; (Ta'qavi), the imam of Shahr-e Kord; and the mullah Mohammadi, Khomeyni's deputy in (?Tehran) — endorsed the (?actions) of the Islamic Ad-Da'wah Party and (?lauded) the Iranian Government's involvement in these murders. The Ahvaz Friday imam announced openly that terrorist actions will continue in every country as Iran sees fit and (Ta'qavi), the Shahr-e Kord Friday imam and Khomeyni's deputy, praised the recent plots in Lebanon and Kuwait and said: This stems from the ideas of our Islamic Revolution. He admitted that the aim of explosions in Kuwait and Lebanon is to export the Islamic Revolution to the countries of the region.

Tudeh Trial Adjourned Until 31 December

LD282111 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Text] The trial of Khalil Abarqu'i, 'Ali Akbar Ramazani, Hadi Hazrati, Mahmud Delavar, Reza Pakdel, and Hasan Ma'qul, six underground members of the military wing of the defunct Tudeh Party, was held this morning in the presence of the officials of this wing and chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, the president of the Armed Forces special tribunal.

In this session after the recitation of some verses from the Holy Koran, the prosecutor read an indictment against the first accused, Khalil Abarqu'i. The accused defended himself and, in his final statement, admitting his violations. He apologized to the Islamic court, the imam of the ummah, and the Muslim and heroic Iranian people.

The charges against the second accused, 'Ali Akbar Ramazani, were then read by the prosecutor. In part of his defense the accused, admitting some charges, said: The information I used to report to the Tudeh Party had to do with the imposed war.

The third accused was Hadi Hazrati, who, after the prosecutor read the charges, admitted all the charges against him. He said: I admit all these charges and will accept with open arms any verdict rendered by the Islamic court. Mentioning the treason of the defunct Tudeh Party against the society's workers and toilers, he advised youth: If you happen to be in a poisonous atmosphere, try not to be deceived by fallacious slogans.

Then the charges against the fourth accused, Reza Pakdel, were read by the prosecutor and Pakdel defended himself. Afterward, Mo'azzez and Partovi, two members and officials of this wing, explained the membership of individuals in the Tudeh Party.

An indictment against the fifth accused, Mahmud Delavar, was then read. In part of his defense, the accused confessed that meetings were held in his house. As his final defense, he said: On the whole I have no defense and admit my membership in the Tudeh Party. But today, at a time when I have invested my whole life in this path, I have nothing but shame before my family and my society.

The sixth accused was Hasan Ma'qul, who admitted the charges against him and defended himself after the prosecutor read out the charges. These included membership in the Tudeh Party with the alias of Kazem, payment of 900 tumans in membership fees, giving information on the situation on the fronts of the imposed war, weekly meetings in his house, the recruitment of captain Iraj Taheri into the Tudeh Party, and continuing activities after the imam of the ummah's message.

The trial session ended at 1230 hours today; the continuation of the trial will be held on Saturday, the 10th of day [31 December] this year.

KEYHAN Reports Foiled Hijacking Attempt*GF280930 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 18 Dec 83 p 17*

[By KEYHAN correspondent]

[Text] Shiraz — A plot to hijack an aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Bushehr-Shiraz route was foiled and the hijacker captured. Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Zia' Shir-'Emadi, the revolution and public prosecutor of Shiraz, in an exclusive interview with KEYHAN's correspondent in Shiraz, announced the news and explained the hijacking. He condemned the plot to hijack the aircraft and stressed the divine assistance for the oppressed Iranian nation.

Then he said: About 2 weeks ago a youth who intended to hijack an aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran's airline boarded a flight in Bushehr for Shiraz. He had a birth certificate issued in Baghdad! Moments after takeoff the youth went to the washroom with his briefcase and took out some explosives and a weapon hidden within. Immediately after coming out, he pushed asides two stewards and loudly informed the passengers that if he saw the slightest movement he would blow the plane up. While the hijacker was walking toward the cockpit, a steward foiled his attempt. The explosion of the material he was carrying wounded a stewardess and the hijacker. The plane landed at Shiraz Airport at 1420 and the wounded were immediately taken to the Air Force hospital. The stewardess was released shortly thereafter while the hijacker was transferred to a city hospital.

The prosecutor added: The foiled plot was an attempt by the satans who wanted to retaliate for the explosion at the security headquarters of the Ba'thist regime as a result of bombs planted by the revolutionaries and thus overshadow the event. However, they were not aware that this plot would be neutralized like all their other plots. The Lord Almighty again showed the counter-revolutionaries that He is the protector and guardian of this revolution. He added: There is a possibility that the hijacker was a member of the defeated hypocrites organization.

IRNA Reports on 'Defection' of Iraqi Muslims*LD242241 Tehran IRNA in English 1954 GMT 24 Dec 83*

[Text] Sanandaj, Dec 24, IRNA — Twelve Iraqi Muslims seeking asylum entered the Islamic Republic of Iran through the western borders during the last three days. These refugees came from the Iraqi cities of Baghdad, Mosel and Kirkuk.

The total number of Iraqi Muslims who have defected to Iran since October 23, 1982 has now reached 1648.

The constant drama of the exodus of the oppressed Iraqi Muslims, of which this one is but one minor episode, still has not stirred the conscience of the so-called international humanitarian organisations. These organisations have conspired to conceal the whole tragedy under their ominous pall of silence.

Briefs

New Mayors — Two separate orders issued by Mr Fruzandeh, the governor general of Khuzestan, named (Amin Beyanak) as mayor of Behbahan and (Fereyduh Jahangir) as mayor of Andimeshk. [Summary] [Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT Dec 83 GF]